

## RAISE MORE FOOD SAYS COMMISSION

United States Should Take Initiative to Forestall a Possible Shortage.

### CONDITION IN EUROPE BAD

Strong Demand for Staple Products and Prices Will Be "Steady and at a High Level."

Washington, Jan. 9.—Recommendation that the United States take the initiative in formulating an international program of agricultural production for the entire world to forestall a possible serious shortage of food, feed and fibre in the next few years, was made to the department of agriculture by the commission sent to Europe last fall by the department to study conditions.

The commission said conditions found in England, France and Italy indicated a strong demand for staple agricultural products of this country such as wheat, meat, sugar, cotton and wool and that prices will be "steady and at a high level," if there is reasonable provision for shipping facilities and a co-operative effort on the part of the allied governments to organize for production and distribution.

Fearing that many American farmers now will revert to their usual profitable crop systems, which were modified at serious disadvantage to assist in the emergency of the wheat shortage during the war, the commission urged new steps to prevent possible disaster.

"The commission believes that unusual risks of over production should be assumed by wheat importing nations which would be the sufferers in case of under production," the report said.

"We would suggest that steps be taken to have the nations now associated as belligerents with the United States determine as accurately as may be, not later than May, 1919, what will be the world's needs for wheat from the 1920 harvest so that appropriate steps may be taken to insure an adequate supply. A similar arrangement might well be considered in reference to meat supplies, sugar, cotton and wool."

An interrelated council, with the secretary of agriculture as the member for the United States was suggested to consider the proposal.

All the countries will need to import large supplies of livestock products and farm machinery.

The commission included W. O. Thompson, president of Ohio state university, chairman; Carl Vrooman, assistant secretary of agriculture, and David R. Coker, cotton grower, Hartsville, S. C.

## BERLIN GOVERNMENT IS PREPARED FOR TOUBLE

Cabinet Has Allied All Agencies to Resist Probable Spartan Attack—Have Troops Ready.

Berlin, Jan. 9.—A government official has informed the correspondent that the cabinet has allied all agencies to the support of law and order and defense of the government.

"If the Spartans attack us," said the official, "they will find us prepared. We have all the troops needed to assert our authority. Naturally we are anxious to avoid a conflict, but if it comes it will not be our choosing."

The correspondent has been informed in competent quarters that the government is hurriedly mobilizing all available defensive forces. The Spartans also are arming and making the royal stables their headquarters. A spacious apartment in the former chancellor's palace has been equipped as a Red Cross room.

## EXPLOSION IN PITTSBURGH KILLED OVER 15 PERSONS

Pittsburgh, Jan. 9.—Between 15 and 20 persons, mostly women and girls, were killed and more than a score of others injured here when a terrific explosion wrecked a film exchange building in the business district. Eight bodies have been recovered from the ruins. Firemen report that many other bodies are buried under wreckage.

## RUNAWAY FREIGHT ON SALUDA KILLS TRAINMAN

Fireman Creasman Pinned Beneath Engine When Train Plunges Into Safety Switch and Overturns.

Asheville, Jan. 9.—One trainman was killed and two were injured when a runaway southbound freight train on the Southern railroad overturned on a safety switch near Meltrose, 35 miles south of this city. The dead: L. N. Creasman, fireman, th injured: Walter Green, brakeman and W. A. McDowell, engineer. Creasman was pinned beneath the engine.

The mishap occurred when brakes on southbound freight train No. 52 failed to work while the train was descending the steep grade of Saluda mountain. The train plunged into safety switch No. 2, overturning the locomotive and five cars.

All the victims of the accident resided in Asheville. The two injured trainmen were brought to the mission hospital here where it was stated their condition is not critical. McDowell has a fractured shoulder and Green has a broken knee and three fingers crushed from his left hand.

## LAST SOLDIERS TAKEN FROM STRANDED SHIP

Coast Guards and Sailors Complete Great Task of Rescuing 2,500 Well and Wounded Troops.

Fire Island, N. Y., Jan. 6.—Weary sailors manning the stranded transport Northern Pacific, who shared with coast guards and the crews of rescue ships in the unparalleled task of sending safely ashore through the breakers 2,500 well and wounded soldiers, climbed into their hammocks free, for the first time in four days, of anxiety over the safety of the army of veterans homeward bound from Europe. The last of the troops aboard went over the side.

There was promise of fair weather for the removal of half the grounded vessel's crew.

This undertaking will be a simple one compared with the delicate task of lowering helpless men from the towering decks of the liner and hoisting them aboard the hospital ship Solace a mile off shore.

Captain Connelly reported to Captain Sterling, chief of staff of the third naval district that his vessel was in excellent condition.

## HUNS THOUGHT TO SAIL UP THE THAMES RIVER

The British Admiralty Has a German Drawing Showing German Submarine Before London.

London, Jan. 9.—One of the treasured possessions of the British admiralty is a German drawing showing a U-boat in the Thames before London with the famous inscription "Es Kommet ein Tag" (There comes a day). It was obtained by a member of the admiralty intelligence from a source and by a method which British naval officers are still keeping secret.

The picture shows a London skyline with the houses of Parliament and the dome of St. Paul's cathedral. In the foreground is the German submarine flying a large imperial ensign. On the conning tower are three sailors facing the sky-line with their clinched fists menacing raised above their heads. On the deck is another sailor in the same pose.

One line under the picture is "Unterseeboot vor London" (submarine before London) to which the officer who got the picture not refrain from adding "Ich denke nicht." (I don't think). It is announced the picture, inscriptions and all but with the imperial ensign replaced by the British white ensign will be reproduced to any newspaper that desires to publish it.

## UNABLE TO SOLVE MYSTERY.

Richmond, Va., Jan. 9.—With practically every clue so far obtained failing to solve the mystery concerning the woman found dead in the James river a week ago, police here turned their attention to following up the case by means of the girl's shoes. A description has been forwarded to a New England factory.

## PEACE ARCHITECTS GET TO BUSINESS

Wilson and Others Begin Exchanges on Definite Terms For League of Nations.

### MAKING SOME HEADWAY

Two British and One French Plan Have Been Presented and Are Being Compared By American Specialists.

Paris, Jan. 9.—The return to Paris of President Wilson, the arrival of Lord Robert Cecil, the special delegate of the British government on the league of nations, and the presence here of Leon Bourgeois the French representative on the same subject, marked the inauguration of exchanges on the definite terms by which the league is to be constituted.

Already considerable progress has been made on the various tentative proposals put forward, but in the recent absence of the President these have not taken definite form, as it is recognized he personally will take a leading part in the final formation of the plan. Meanwhile, however the various governments chiefly interested are presenting outlines in quite definite form.

Two British plans of this tentative nature have been presented—one by Lord Robert Cecil, the other by Lieutenant General J. C. Smuts former minister of defense, of the Union of South Africa. The French plan as formulated by M. Bourgeois has also been set forth, and these are being compared by the American specialists who are preparing the groundwork for President Wilson.

The French Plan. Lord Robert Cecil's plan outlines a broad and comprehensive organization of the league of nations, but thus far it is in the general terms and has not yet been reduced to definite terms of enactment.

General Smuts' plan is along similar lines, but more general, and is mainly a thesis on the advantages of such a league of nations.

Both of these plans are receiving careful study by the American authorities and, it is declared, both are regarded in a most favorable light.

M. Bourgeois' plan, embodying the French point of view, while general, also embraces a number of specific details, including compulsory arbitration, restriction of excessive armament and international tribunal and a series of sanctions of penalties for enforcing observance of the league's decisions. These sanctions include various diplomatic, judicial and economic measures, whereby the united nations may enforce their decrees.

The American viewpoint, as it is now being formulated by the special lists as the groundwork for the President, seeks to reach an accord on fundamentals on which all agree and present them in simple working form. One of the chief of these fundamentals is the formation of a league, which will embrace all the nations of the world but not one which will establish any balance of power among a group of nations.

Also, care is being taken that the influence of the various nations in the league would be in accordance with their size and importance, so the great powers and the small powers would have voice according to their standing.

### For Small Nations.

Another feature especially concerning small undeveloped nations is to be established, according to the American plan—a system of international trusteeship whereby the various larger nations having a developed and stable civilization will act as trustees for the society of nations in fostering the progress and development of undeveloped communities.

It is recognized the league of nations will have to have some established and permanent seat for its extensive international work, and the gradual conviction is taking form that this seat will be Versailles. The decision as to this, however, must be the natural outgrowth of the peace conference.

Reports that the working organization might be located in Holland

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## PLACE AUTOMOBILE LICENSE \$1 PER H. P.

Good Roads Committee Will Ask Legislature to Change Tax From 25 Cents.

### HOLD MEET IN COLUMBIA

Recommends Also That State Highway Commission Be Composed of One From Each Congressional District.

Columbia, S. C., Jan. 9.—Following an all day conference with the state highway commission, a program of legislation to be asked at the approaching session of the general assembly was agreed upon last night by the State Good Roads campaign committee. The program does not call for the passage at the approaching session of the general assembly of an enabling act for a bond issue, but asks for legislation looking to the passage of such an act at the 1920 session.

A change in the present highway commission so as to include one from each congressional district, to be appointed by the governor and the three senator professors of civil engineering at the University of South Carolina, the Citadel and Clemson college will be asked. This commission, under the proposed legislation, would be given the right to appoint and fix the compensation of its engineers and employees, and the power to lay out, construct, regulate and maintain a system of state highways, connecting every county seat, such highways to be so constructed and surfaced as to take care of the traffic which may be developed upon them.

This commission would also be instructed to investigate the cost of construction of such a system of highways and to report to the next session of the legislature what state bonds would be necessary therefor, and the estimated annual license tax necessary for the retirement thereof, after providing for proper maintenance of the said highway.

The legislature will also be asked to pass such acts as will enable the counties of the state to issue bonds during 1919 and thereafter for the construction of highways within their county lines. Provision would also be made for the return to any county, which constructs any portion of a state highway system as laid out by the commission, under its supervision, the cost of said highway; or, in the event of a provision being made whereby counties contribute in any way to the construction of the highway system, such portion of this cost as such county would in that event be entitled to.

The legislature will be asked to raise the annual license tax, beginning with 1920 on motor vehicles to \$1 per horse power for automobiles and motorcycles and \$2 per horse power for motor trucks and the license for dealers to \$50 for each make of car handled, and to fix the license of trailers at \$10.

The central campaign committee decided that inasmuch as no bond issue could be ratified until November, 1920, the best course would be to first definitely map out a system of highways and have as much of the system as is practicable taken over and maintained in good condition. The highway commission will be expected to visit each county and hold hearings at which the people will be given an opportunity to discuss in detail the system as it applies to each county.

### Sees Determination.

Columbia, S. C., Jan. 9.—"I have seen so many good roads movements launched and result in nothing but hot air that I really did not take the present movement in the state very seriously until I attended the conference of representative men at the Jefferson hotel on Friday afternoon and saw the determination written on the faces of those men," said a well known South Carolinian today.

"When I saw men like David R. Coker, of Hartsville, R. G. Rhett, of Charleston, L. L. Hardin, of Columbia, A. B. Carter and O. P. Mills, of Greenville, Victor Montgomery, of Spartanburg and other equally well known business men, professional

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## GASTON MEANS TRIED TO HIRE RED BUCK

Wanted Him to Write Articles About Cotton Favoring German Government.

Washington, Jan. 9.—Gaston B. Means, testifying before the Overman committee, told of some of his experiences as an agent of Boy-Ed before the war. He declared that he severed his connections when he learned the Germans were prepared to begin unrestricted warfare because he knew that would involve America.

Mr. Means said he came to Washington to try to enlist services of writers for Germany and saw H. E. C. Bryant, and tried to employ him but could not.

"I wanted him to write about cotton and he asked if the German wanted him to misstate facts for them. He said that he was in sympathy with the allies and that anything he wrote would not be in sympathy with the Germans."

"Did you employ him?" inquired Senator Overman. "I did not," the witness said. Means said he helped Boy-Ed work out a series of articles on cotton, showing the prices had fallen and helped on a plan for taking over wheat.

Means testified he had accepted employment as a German agent a \$100 a day, but that his relations ceased before the United States entered the war.

In denying a statement by A. Bruce Bielaski that he was a German agent while a defendant in a murder trial at Concord, N. C., in the fall of 1917, Means said as soon as he obtained information as to German activities he reported it to the authorities.

Means told the committee he had knowledge concerning important papers which formerly belonged to Boy-Ed and which the department of justice had not obtained. He explained in executive session where these might be found, saying the government should have them.

## FRANK HUNTER IS DEAD AFTER ILLNESS OF WEEK

Passed Away Yesterday Afternoon at 5:40 at His Home on Barr Street.

Frank W. Hunter died yesterday afternoon at 5:40 o'clock at his home on Barr street, death being due to pneumonia following influenza. Mr. Hunter had been ill a little more than a week but almost from the first his condition was regarded as critical, and for two days before his death little hope of recovery was entertained.

Frank Hunter was one of the most popular young business men of the city and was well known in the county and state. He was assistant postmaster for some six or eight years and prior to his appointment to that position was for several years clerk in the local postoffice, his father, J. F. Hunter being postmaster.

Mr. Hunter was married April 8, 1918, to Mrs. Effie Thompson, of Fort Mill. At the time of his death he was in his 36th year, and was the only son of Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Hunter, who with his wife, survive him.

Mr. Hunter was a member of the Presbyterian church, the Masonic, Junior and Woodmen lodges and funeral services will be conducted from the residence this afternoon at 3:30 o'clock under the auspices of these lodges. Interment will take place in Westside cemetery. The pall bearers will be A. J. Gregory, H. C. Pardue, Willie Hendrix, Perry Mackey, Latta Hood, Dr. R. C. Brown.

### Move to Heath Springs.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Caskey have moved to Heath Springs. Mr. Caskey has been appointed carrier on Route 3 from that postoffice and has already entered upon his duties.

### Carnes-Shute.

W. Towne Carnes and Miss Hattie Shute, daughter of J. D. Shute, of the eastern part of the county, were married Sunday afternoon at the home of the bride's parents, Rev. Mr. Bloodsue officiating. The bride and groom are well-known and popular young people.

## PRESIDENT WILSON LAUDS ROOSEVELT

In Cabled Proclamation Recites Valuable Services of Dead Ex-President.

### ENERGY AND INITIATIVE

Private Life Characterized By Simplicity, a Virtue and an Affection Worthy of Admiration and Emulation.

Washington, Jan. 9.—The following proclamation on the death of Theodore Roosevelt was cabled from Paris Tuesday by President Wilson and issued at the state department: "Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States of America.

"A proclamation. To the people of the United States:

"It becomes my sad duty to announce officially the death of Theodore Roosevelt, President of the United States from September 14, 1901 to March 4, 1909, which occurred at his home at Sagamore Hill, Oyster Bay, New York, at 4:15 o'clock in the morning of January 6, 1919. In his death the United States has lost one of its most distinguished and patriotic citizens, who had endeared himself to the people by his strenuous devotion to their interests and to the public interests of his country.

"As president of the police board of his native city, as a member of the legislature and governor of his state, as civil service commissioner, as assistant secretary of the navy, as Vice-President and President of the United States, he displayed administrative powers of a signal order and conducted the affairs of these various offices with a concentration of effort and a watchful care which permitted no divergence from the line of duty he had definitely set for himself.

"In the war with Spain, he displayed singular initiative and energy and distinguished himself among the commanders of the army in the field. As President he awoke the nation to the dangers of private control which lurked in our financial and industrial systems. It was by thus arresting the attention and stimulating the purpose of the country that he opened the way for subsequent necessary and beneficent reforms.

"His private life was characterized by a simplicity, a virtue and an affection worthy of all admiration and emulation by the people of America.

"In testimony of the respect in which his memory is held by the government and the people of the United States, I do hereby direct that the flags of the White House and the several departmental buildings be displayed at half staff for a period of 30 days, and that suitable military and naval honors under orders of the secretaries of war and of the navy be rendered on the day of the funeral.

"Done this seventh day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and nineteen, and of the independence of the United States of America the one hundred and forty-third.

"Woodrow Wilson.  
"By the President,  
"Frank L. Polk.  
"Acting Secretary of State."

### DeLaney-Rodman.

A marriage of unusual interest throughout the Carolinas occurred at Waxhaw, N. C., Wednesday afternoon when E. S. DeLaney, of Charlotte, and Miss Ethel Rodman were united in marriage at the home of the bride's mother. On account of a recent bereavement in the bride's family the wedding was private, only members of the families of the contracting parties being present. The ceremony was performed by Rev. J. W. Moore.

The bride is a sister of Mrs. R. N. Walkup, of this city, and Mr. and Mrs. Walkup attended the wedding.

### Visiting in Chester.

The Chester Reporter says: Miss Pauline Marion, of Lancaster, and Miss Eugenia Drennan, of Richburg, were recent guests of Miss Rosa Young, Miss Marion returned to Winthrop and Miss Drennan to Chicago.